Review of the list of bulk drag* under price control

342. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased Jo state:

(a) what steps have been taken to review the list of bulk drugs under price control as envisaged in the policy;

(b) who is to review the list and why this task has not yet started;

(c) whether it is a fact that non-review of the list is harming the interests of the Inidan companies;

(d) whether Govemment are supporting the multinations by sitting over the issue of review of list;

(e) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has received representations against wrong inclusion and exclusion of drugs; if so, what are the names of drugs and other details; and

(f) what aspects of Pricing Policy would be looked after by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and what aspects are being looked after by its Chairman at present?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Drug Policy envisages that the work related to up dating of the list of drugs under price control would be undertaken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) NPPA has not ber-come functional due to problems* of administrative nature. Therefore the Government has recently decided to initiate work pertaining to review of the list of Bulk Drugs under price control.

(c) and (d) The criteria laid down for inclusion / exclusion of drugs under price control arc based on economnic factors like turnover, market competition and monopoly situation. These criteria are for the industry as a whole and do not distinguish between companies of Indian origin and others.

(e) Representations against inclusion of 19 drugs were received from 27 manufacturers and 1 industry association. The decision of the Government has been conveyed to the concerned.

(f) NPPA would do the work of price fixation, updating the list of drugs under price control, monitoring the price of decontrolled drugs and formulations and also oversee the implementation of the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order. Chairman, NPPA is at present looking after the strategic and administrative matters related to the NPPA.

Decliac la IDPL Production Level

343. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decline in IDPL production level is directly linked with prot racted stalemate over its revival plan;

(b) if so, whether the delay is acciden tal in nature; and

(c) whether the IDBI, Mumbai, the operating agency for a techno-economic viability study of IDPL, is an expert body for such study?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) IDPL was given financial assistance by Government *0i* India in excess of what was provided for in the revival package approved by BIFR in 1994. The inability of IDPL to meet the production/sales targets and to maintain the working capital cycle is primarily responsible for the progressive decline in production level.

(c) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, provides for the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), A quasi-judicial authority, to appoint any public financial institution, State level institution,